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**Аннотация**

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The main objectives of this thesis are to establish the role of idioms in the media and to find evidence in favor of the assumption that the English of today is showing preference for a more abundant use of idioms and more modified forms of them as compared to the previous years. Chapter 1 deals with definitions and classifications of word-groups, serving as a clarification as to which set-phrases can be called idioms. Chapter 1 also attempts to outline the dominating tendencies in the world of modern English idioms. Chapter 2 is devoted to comparing the articles of two different decade-epochs – of the years 2003 and 2014 – that cover the American-led intervention in Iraq, finding idiomatic differences and observing new tendencies in the usage of English idioms. Chapter 3 breaks down all the idiomatic evidence used in the context of the Iraqi war into semantic groups and concentrates on the illustration of the role of the idioms in the articles subjected to the analysis. The findings of the study give reason to acknowledge the domination of the established tendencies and assume a bond between the use of idioms in war articles and extra-linguistic factors.

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